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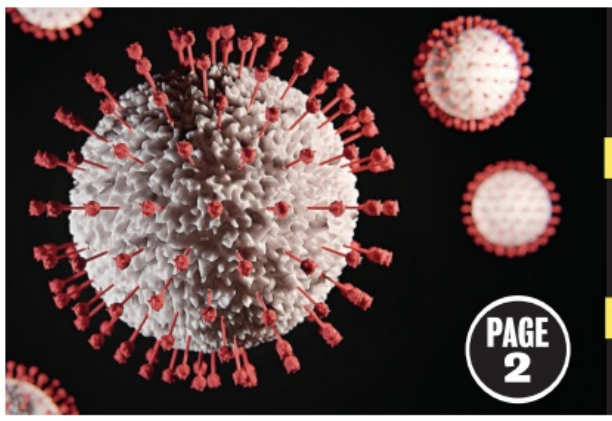
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 17 | Humidity 77% Partly cloudy. Misty morning Sensex 57,200 | Nifty 17,101 | Gold 47,584 | Silver 61,326 | Dollar 75.00 | Euro 83.67 | GBP 100.59



PAGE 2

BE POSITIVE. WHAT'S IN A NUMBER?

CHARGING AHEAD: MEET FIRST EV ADOPTER OF BENGALURU

PAGE 7

Almost two years into pandemic, despite ban, Bengalureans continue to spit in public, releasing potentially disease-spreading body fluids into the air

SPIT WIDE OPEN

Spitting in public punishable from April 2020

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It appears as though there is no stopping the habit of some Bengalureans spitting in public, that too, in the time of an 'airborne' coronavirus at large.

According to civic groups campaigning against citizens spitting in public, despite a ban in place, law enforcement has been limited.

Terming spitting a danger to public health, civic group Beautiful Bharat is calling for stricter enforcement of the spitting ban, alongside covid-appropriate behaviour. Currently, covid-appropriate behaviour involves just wearing masks, maintaining social distancing and following hand hygiene.

"We are in the third wave of covid-19; even after roughly 23 months, nothing much has changed as far as spitting in public is concerned. No advisories are being issued in this regard. It should be part of covid-appropriate behaviour. Ideally, the government should have enforced no-spitting in public roughly two years ago when the ban was introduced," said founder of Beautiful Bharat Odette Katrak.

Katrak added that apart from covid-19, the nasty habit of spitting in public spaces could spread diseases such as tuberculosis. "There is a need for this habit to be curbed once and for all: enforcing masks, social distancing and hand hygiene alone are ineffective while spitting in public continues rampantly. We have observed that there is a higher incidence of tuberculosis in pourakarmikas in the city, the civic staff being the first point of contact," Katrak told BM.

Not long ago, Beautiful Bengaluru now renamed Beautiful Bharat led a nationwide campaign to get public spitting banned. Consequently, in April 2020, spitting in public was made a punishable act.

Apart from no-spitting in public as an addition to covid-appropriate behaviour, Beautiful Bharat is requesting mandatory no-spitting signs to be installed in public spaces.

"I am a proponent of putting a stop to public spitting.

> **"There is a higher incidence of tuberculosis among pourakarmikas in Bengaluru, the civic staff being the first point of contact..."** — Odette Katrak, founder, Beautiful Bharat

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THE VAX MUSEUM

Bengaluru teen develops app to keep vaccination records of a lifetime

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Vaccination certificates of teenagers are mostly issued in hard copy. Once a teenager is vaccinated, the signature of the vaccine-issuing medical practitioner and vaccine sticker are recorded on a folder or a book — parents aren't able to keep track of hard copies in the digital age.

Fifteen-year-old eleventh grader Laksh Bharani from National Public School (NPS) has a solution: an app - 'VaxiCheck' - to manage vaccinations efficiently over a long period of time. In September, 2021, when Laksh went for his annual flu shot, he saw how cluttered his record book was with the vial stickers all over the place and illegible handwritten notes.

A brief discussion with the doctor further revealed how widespread this problem was in India and abroad. Record books maintained worldwide often lack consistency and standards - some only docs can read and thanks to lack of readability and long-term nature of records, people run into the risk of missing their vaccination/inoculation schedule or sometimes do get vaccinated twice.

Laksh spoke to his family and friends about the issue: "I discussed and sampled few other vaccination record books of my family and friends and picked on this idea, planned product features and executed by using contemporary tech like 'flutter', 'python', 'firebase' and 'dart' (cross-platform technology to build Android, iOS &

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Celebrate rural India

Come, celebrate the sights, sounds and landscapes of rural India, meandering through tranquil hamlets, lush fields, lively markets and temples in the countryside with KYNKYNY.com's latest virtual exhibition, 'Stories of the Land'. Prominent contemporary artists, Mohan Naik and Sivabalan will be featured in this show. The richly expressive artworks at this show are an ode to the lesser-seen and known rural worlds of Goa and Tamil Nadu. You don't want to miss this.
Register: KYNKYNY.com; When: Until January 31

02 Art your service again

After a turbulent two years that saw the performing arts world having to rewrite the rules and stay alive virtually, the Attakkalari India Biennial (AIB), The Attakkalari Centre for Movement Arts' signature event, comes at a crucial moment in time – when things seem to be going back to the old ways yet nothing's the same. During the 10th edition of the signature event, given that inspiration is the need of the hour, the theme of the festival this year is Inspire Bengaluru.**When: Until February**
Where: Attakkalari Studios, Bangalore International Centre and Ranga Shankara
Tickets: insider.in, bookmyshow.com, at the Attakkalari office and official website: www.aib.net.in

03 Tune in, folks

Attend a beautiful musical evening at Lahe Lahe to grab a mid-week treat. The session will have musical aficionados come and jam together and form a community of like-minded musical souls.
Where: Lahe Lahe, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar
When: Wednesdays, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Tickets: 9886294444;

What's in a number?

Is number of covid cases on the decline? In span of 10 days, 19 districts including Bengaluru Urban report lower positivity rate; 11 report higher

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Officials hope TPR will fall if they decrease testing as per ICMR guidelines

The number of covid cases in Karnataka has seen a mild decline and the positivity rate in over 19 districts has also seen a significant drop in the past 10 days as per the data from state war room.

Bengaluru Urban, Dakshin Kannada, Kodagu, Koppal, Davengere, Gadag, Bidar, Raichur, Mysuru and Mandya reported a lower positivity rate on January 29, compared to January 19.

In Bengaluru Urban, the positivity rate on January 19 was 25.44 per cent, but in 10 days it dropped to 15.24 per cent. In Kolar, from 29.51 per cent the positivity rate dropped to 17 per cent, in Raichur it dropped from 17.86 per cent to 11.54 per cent, in Ramnagar it fell from 27.1 per cent to 11.38 per cent and in Mandya it fell from 40.54 per cent to 29.01 per cent.

However, during the same period, 11 other districts, including Hassan, Kolar, Bagalkot, Belagavi, Haveri, Kodagu and Yadgir, reported higher positivity rates.

Bagalkot saw a rise in the positivity rate from 2.3 per cent to a whopping 30 per cent. Belagavi saw a jump from 15 per cent to 24.57 per cent and Kodagu went from 13 to 23.87 per cent.

The Bagalkot district health officer (DHO) pointed out that the testing has increased in the district, which is the reason for the increase in the number of positive cases. However, as per the new protocol, the district has decided to conduct tests only on the symptomatic patients.

"We had a target to test 1,000 people per day in the district, but we were performing 3,000 per day... This way many were turning positive, including the asymptomatic ones and primary, and secondary contacts on covid patients. Now, the new testing strategy focuses on symptomatic patients only and the positivity rate is slowly coming down. The positivity rate was high in the last few days. We are hopeful it will come down and are following all containment measures," the DHO said.

Meanwhile, commissioner Randeep D stated that in the initial days more cases were found in Bengaluru and its surrounding districts, but now it's seen in the "late starters", the districts which started reporting cases later.

"This is due to the testing performed in the districts. With more testing more cases are being detected. With the new protocol we will follow the procedure of testing those who are symptomatic. However, the plateau shows that the positivity rate has come down in many districts. In the next week we are hoping to see the plateau go down in other districts as well," he said.

> **"With more testing more cases are being detected. With the new ICMR protocol, we will test only those who are symptomatic**
> – Randeep D, Commissioner

The districts with the largest reduction in positivity rates in the span of these 10 days are Mandya, Kolar, Ramnagar and Bengaluru Urban. The districts with the largest increase are Bagalkot, Chamarajanagar, Belagavi, Kodagu, Haveri and Yadgir.

Active mobility bill is good for your health too

DULT commissioner points out if more people walk or cycle, it will help them keep fit

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Seems like the Karnataka Active Mobility bill holds a good health benefit too. It may not only promote non-motorised transport but may also encourage people to walk so that obesity and diabetes can be cut down, Department of Urban Land Transport (DULT) commissioner V Manjula pointed out. "The bill also will help resolve age-old pollution issues and health issues such as obesity and diabetes, by encouraging people to walk, cycle or use public transport. The safety of women and mass parking spaces for cycles are issues that will be discussed in depth once the bill is passed," she said.

The NGO working on civic issues, Janaagraha, held discussions related to the first-of-its-kind bill that aims at providing protection to the pedestrians and cyclists across the town. The bill has been drafted keeping in mind that pedestrians are the most vulnerable to road accidents. The bill also proposes a penalty of Rs 2 lakh for those who fail to comply with the rules. The bill has been made open to public feedback till January 31.

Sathya Sankaran, Bicycle mayor, said, "Till now there was no specific bill for the pedestrians, so we should be happy that someone has taken cognisance of the fact that the rights of the pedestrians should be protected as well. That there is now a legal cover to ask for the rights of the pedestrians on the road is in itself a big thing." He added that a lot of people feel that the infrastructure of the city is not convenient for pedestrians as of now.

Revathy Ashok, member, Bangalore Political Action Committee, said, "It is a landmark bill because for the first time it is inviting people to give their recommendations. Moreover, it is giving a voice to the pedestrians and ensuring their rights." V Manjula, commissioner, DULT, said their focus has always been on mobility of people rather than mobility of vehicles. "Last year we tried out pedestrianisation of a street on Church Street and from the results we realised that there is an unmet need among people for public spaces which are open and walkable. We recognised the need for a long-term solution and thought on developing the active mobility bill. Moreover, there were no laws that specifically protected the rights of pedestrians. That is when we started working on this."

'We shared a good bond, had no quarrels or differences'

Dr Soundarya's husband tells police she seemed fine night before suicide

Police have recorded the statement of Dr Neeraj, in connection with the suicide case of his wife and former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa's granddaughter Dr Soundarya.

Dr Neeraj, in his statement, said that the couple shared a good bonding. He said there was no crisis between them and he is not able to understand what pushed Soundarya to suicide, police sources said on Sunday.

Soundarya ended her life at her apartment, leaving behind her 9-month-old boy on Friday. Dr Neeraj has said that he led a cordial life with Soundarya.

He claimed that they did not quarrel or had any difference of opinion among themselves. Dr Neeraj has further stated that the incident has shocked him and he is not able to understand what led her to commit suicide. After the birth of the child, Soundarya spent most of the time at her parents' place and visited the flat occasionally, police said.

"As always, I expected Soundarya to wake up late in the morning, so I started for work early in the morning at regular time. When she came to the apartment on Thursday night, she seemed fine," claimed Neeraj.

After recording the statement of Dr Neeraj, the High Ground police conducted a spot inspection at Soundarya and Neeraj's apartment. The police have also recorded the statements of Soundarya's mother and domestic help, according to sources.

Soundarya wanted to serve the poor and chose to work at the government-run Bowring Hospital. Meanwhile, Bengaluru Police Commissioner Kamal Pant met Yediyurappa at his residence and spoke to him for about 20 minutes. Further investigations are on.

DKS meets BSY

Karnataka Congress president DK Shivakumar on Sunday met former Chief Minister and BJP leader BS Yediyurappa to express condolences on the demise of the latter's granddaughter.

—BMB + Agencies

Cruelty on board

Driver 'intentionally' runs over stray dog

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In a horrifying incident, a three-year-old female dog Lara, was run over by a car -- and what is more CCTV footage revealed that it was not an accident but a planned crime.

On January 26, around 6.15 pm, a white Audi entered the locality in Jayanagar Block 1 and drove towards a group of dogs sleeping on the pavement. CCTV footage shared with Bangalore Mirror shows that the car stops at a distance from the dogs. The car then slowly moves towards the dog and then again goes back to the initial point. The driver is then seen waiting for a few seconds and then speeds over the dog. The dog screams out in pain and the other dogs panic, when the Audi speeds away.

The dog feeders in the locality until Saturday night were not aware of the incident. They kept looking for Lara for the past four days and couldn't find her. Hence, they informed the volunteers of Jaynagar Canine Squad, who came looking for her. They looked everywhere, but nobody could find her.

On Saturday, the volunteers saw the CCTV footage from a resident's house and the incident came to light. "The footage shocked us. We hadn't thought that this could have happened to Lara. There are eight dogs in the area and all them are friendly. Lara was one of the timid dogs, she is anxious and doesn't get close to anybody. Even while feeding, she takes her time and comes to eat. This is cruelty to the next level," said a resident.

Some of the residents pointed out that the accused has a political background.

Badari from Jayanagar Canine Squad filed a complaint in the Siddapura police station. He said, "We are a group of people in Jayanagar who make sure that the stray dogs are vaccinated and spayed. What happened to Lara was horrifying."

Arun Prasad, an animal activist, pointed out that there has been many cases of cruelty to animals, but this is not acceptable. "The accused should be put behind the bars as this can't be

CCTV footage shows that the driver of Audi deliberated before speeding up, driving over dog

repeated and the culprits can't always get away."

Some residents even alleged that the dogs had chased the Audi once.

Prasad said, "The vehicle of the accused has still not been seized by the police nor have they arrested the accused."

A police officer from Siddapura police station told Bangalore Mirror, "The accused hadn't been arrested yet. Investigation is going on into the incident."

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HERE IS A BRIEF LOOK AT THE FASCINATING HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NOW IN VOGUE ELECTRIC CAR

EVs: A ride from the past

Photos: © GETTY IMAGES

Respedit.Bangalore
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If we thought electric vehicles are a thing of the future, well, they are now a part of mainstream reality. The history of electric cars is actually quite fascinating.

HOW IT STARTED

Few are aware that electric cars were on the roads nearly as early as internal combustion cars. The first electric motor vehicles were constructed in the very late nineteenth century. This advent was not much later than the first internal combustion engines. The road to even the early electric cars took some time, however. First came the battery. The earliest usable version was invented in 1800. This was followed by the invention of the first functional electric motor in the 1830s. Not yet ready for powering heavy machinery, the battery and the engine were nonetheless crucial developments. These would be developed further, and together would power the first electric cars decades later.

Electric cars were nearly as popular as internal combustion cars at the beginning of the twentieth century. However, the early assembly line production cars pushed them out of popularity.

THE 60s AND 70s

It was not until the 1960s that interest in electric motor-powered cars was revived noticeably. There were a few production cars that were launched in that decade. Some interesting concept cars were developed too.

Lunar Roving Vehicle, one of the most popular electric car, made its mark on the moon in the early 1970s. The decade also saw the beginning of the energy crisis that highlighted fossil fuel dependence for vehicles.

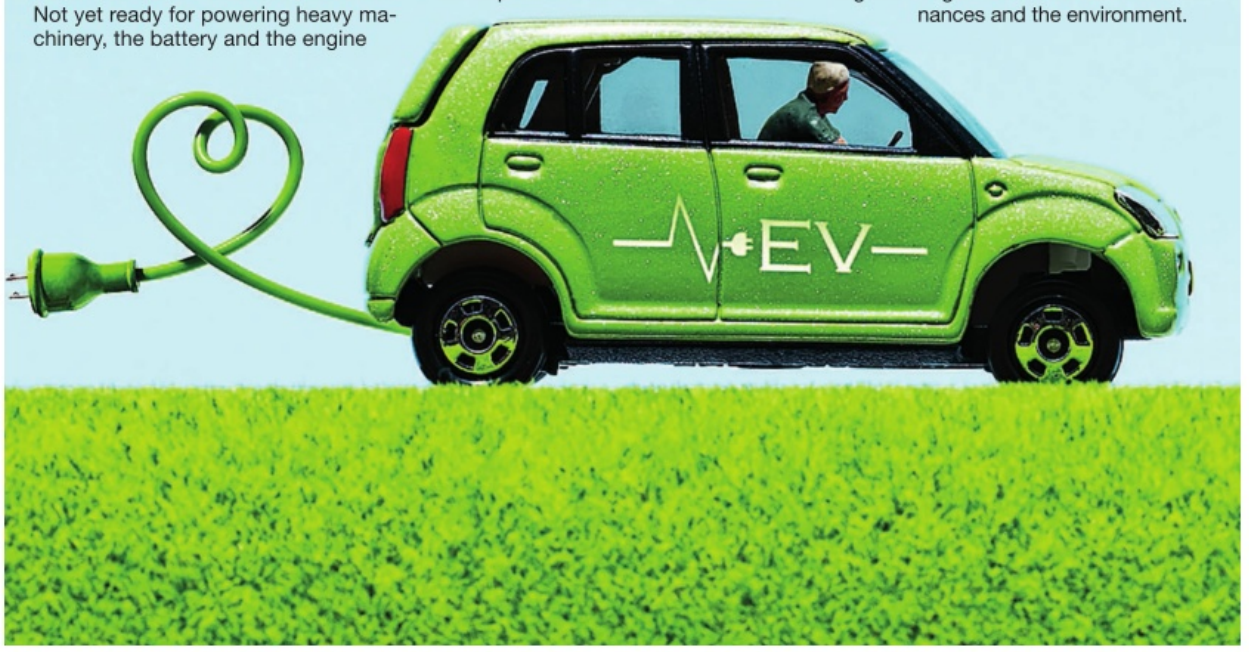
There were efforts to popularize electric vehicles in the 1980s and 1990s with some exciting products. And though they did not catch on, they paved the way for the slow yet sure transition to electric vehicles today.

GETTING POPULAR

Electric motor cars have become quite popular in the 21st century. With environmental awareness, people are increasingly looking for alternatives to fossil fuels for their vehicles. And unlike some early EVs that did not excite potential customers, electric cars today are as exciting as their fossil fuel counterparts. New companies are now leading the way in designing performance-oriented, stylish looking EVs. The trend has even resulted in existing automotive giants stepping up their game. Established brands, too, are coming out with beautiful electric motor-powered cars. These are also decked with cutting-edge technology and hair-raising performance levels.

And even though not everyone may want to buy these high-end EVs, these pave the way for lower and mid-level variants. The best technology always trickles down to the average consumer. In fact, that has been happening already. Exciting and affordable electric vehicle options are increasing in the markets today. The infrastructure and government support for EVs has also been growing recently. Attractive electric cars are available today in all segments, from hatchbacks to SUVs. They are all for the taking.

Gone are the days when electric vehicles were unappealing experiments that failed to interest the masses. And the renewed interest will eventually be a good thing for both individual finances and the environment.



NEW OR PRE-OWNED

SHOULD YOU GO IN FOR A NEW CAR OR A PRE-OWNED ONE? HERE ARE SOME POINTS TO HELP YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND

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This is probably one of those questions which have no right or wrong answer. While the answer to this is totally subject to the mindset of the car-buyer, there is no denying that it can be quite a confusing proposition. While the idea of a purchasing a new car is enticing, it isn't always the most viable option, financially. And then, if you have recently learnt to drive, there is always the risk of damaging your swanky new car while you are learning.

No matter which of these two you choose, both have their advantages. Let's take a look.

PRE-OWNED CAR

- **Affordability:** Pre-owned cars are obviously cheaper than brand new ones. This means you either spend less on a car of the same size or have the option of buying a car that is larger, more comfortable and feature-rich.
- **Depreciation:** Vehicles are depreciating assets. The minute you drive your new car out of the showroom, its value depreciates. When buying a pre-owned car, you don't suffer the cost of depreciation as much as buying new car.
- **Resale:** Keeping in mind that the depreciation is a lot less compared to a new car, resale value automatically increases.
- **Insurance:** Paying insurance premium for pre-owned cars is also a relatively affordable affair in comparison to new ones.

NEW CAR

- **Pride:** There is no better joy than driving a spanking new car out of a dealership.
- **Option of choice:** When buying a new car, you can choose which one to buy. When buying a pre-owned car that may not be the case.
- **You get what you pay for:** When buying a new car, you don't have to worry about its service or accident history.
- **Expenses:** You don't quite have to spend a single rupee on a new car up until the first service - in which too you just pay for the oil and consumables. This may not be the case with pre-owned cars as they might just demand replacement of a few parts.
- **New technology:** Technology in cars is ever-changing. When you buy a new car, you can expect it to be loaded with all the latest gadgetry.
- **Warranty:** New cars generally come with a 3-5 years or a limited kilometre warranty. The peace of mind that comes with this is worth spending a bit extra on.

SOME TIPS

If you are the kind of a buyer who retains a vehicle for five years or more, it makes sense to purchase a new car. Apart from giving you peace of mind, it will also fetch you a better resale price when you plan to sell it off. That being said, if you are the kind who likes to change your car every two years or so, it is a sensible option to purchase a pre-owned offering and avoid the cost of depreciation.

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SPIT STOP: 'Impose spitting ban, please'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It is an unhealthy habit that could lead to the spread of covid-19 and other respiratory illnesses, such as tuberculosis. We should all join hands to curb this habit that damages our beautiful city. The government should impose the no-spitting rule as strictly as they implement no-smoking/no drinking in public spaces," said Dr Sudarshan Ballal, member of covid-19 expert committee.

"Public spitting involves micro-droplets that generate aerosols that could be transmitted into the air. Apart from covid-19, this could lead to the spread of other diseases like flu, tuberculosis and respiratory illnesses. Spit contains secretions from the food pipe as well; spit landing on food could lead to vomiting and diarrhoea," said Dr Subrata Das of Sakra World Hospital.

BBMP special commissioner for health KV Trilok Chandra said marshals have been enforcing no-spitting rule in the city — from September 2019 till today, BBMP has registered 11,190 cases of spitting and collected fines amounting to Rs 11,53,585.

According to BBMP reports accessed by BM, 3,556 cases have been registered in East zone, 2,274 cases in West, 1,634 cases in South, 931 cases in Mahadevapura, 1,485 cases in RR Nagar, 945 cases in Yelahanka, 180 cases in Dasarahalli and 184 cases in Bommanahalli.

"Spitting was banned during the first wave itself but there is a need to create awareness in rural areas as well. We have noticed that people wear masks as part of covid-appropriate behaviour and proceed to pull down their masks to spit. Spitting should be only permitted in designated areas like washrooms and private areas. People need to bring about a lifestyle change regarding this," said Randeep D, BBMP commissioner for health and family welfare.

Responding to the question about adding no-spitting as part of covid-appropriate behaviour, Randeep further noted: "There has been a request to add no-spitting to the CAB list. We will request the government, and once the approval comes, we will add it."

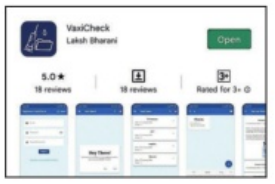
Vaccine wallet for teenagers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Web Apps at one go)." Laksh picked up the required tech-knowhow over the last four months.

By January 2022, Laksh built the app and launched VaxiCheck on Google Play Store. Most children worldwide get their immunisations for chickenpox, diphtheria, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, measles, influenza, polio, pneumococcal vaccines, rotavirus, covid-19 and other diseases. To keep a record of inoculations, VaxiCheck is quite the handy app.

"The app includes some very useful and foundational features: new user registration, profile management, first-time user experience (FTUX), add and search options, vaccine education centre and new vaccination records with photographs of proof. All one has to do is click a picture of the vaccination certificate and upload; it stays there for a lifetime," Laksh explained.



His app now has 160+ downloads globally and active users are growing by the day. Some users are even uploading covid-19 certificates. "Early adopters are saving their digital CoWin certificates," said Laksh while analysing app insights.

Laksh received guidance from his teachers and principal at NPS for 'creating an environment of innovation and learning that habituates the students to extend their own boundaries and develop the aptitude to be self-driven'.

"My teachers will spread the word about my app to various students, who can download the app and be benefitted. There are elderly women who have asked me if they could upload their medical records — yes, the app can be used to upload any medical records," Laksh said.

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CHANGE OF NAME

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EVROOMING since 40 years

B'luru advocate was among the first in city to have taken the e-route

Guru Prasad (inset) bought the vehicle 'Komal' in the 1980s

| Shreyashi Mukherjee
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@timesgroup.com

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Transport experts have been hailing electric vehicles as the future of transportation. The cities are revamping themselves in order to adapt themselves to the increased demand for such vehicles. While electric vehicles have become the talk of the town very recently, Guru Prasad, an advocate in Bengaluru was already surfing the roads with one of the first electric vehicles that was introduced in the city.

In 1982, a company named Electromobiles India Limited was the first ever to produce electric vehicles. They had named the vehicle "Komal", which came with a 12 volts 70 AH battery pack. The company specified that the vehicle would travel about 80 km per charge. "Mine was one of the three vehicles to be released in Vidhana Soudha by then chief minister," said Prasad.

Around 40 years ago, if someone mentioned a vehicle that required no petrol and could run on a battery, they would have been a subject of ridicule. Proving the existence of something as bizarre was one of the major reasons why Guru Prasad opted for the electric vehicle. "When I saw the vehicle, I thought that it would be quite adventurous to use something like that. Moreover, their advertisement said that the vehicle would not emit foul gas and it would be noiseless. It was cost-friendly as well," said Prasad.

Looking back, he said the technology back then was not as progressive as it is now which made owning an electric vehicle quite difficult. "There were no charging ports in the city. Mostly during the night, I would plug the vehicle in the socket at home and use it in the morning," he added.

Despite being told that the vehicle had the capacity to travel at least 70 km in one charge, the vehicle would not move ahead 30 to 40 km. "The batteries were quite weak, so even after full charge the vehicle was not going more than 30 to 40 km. The vehicle would not climb on inclined surfaces as the pulling power was low. The biggest challenge was that there was no technology to support," he said.

Today, the users of electric vehicles can heave a sigh of relief as there 176 charging ports in the city. The batteries have been developed and the speed of the vehicles have been significantly increased. However, Guru Prasad still has concerns regarding the caliber of electric vehicles. "I do not question the quality of the vehicle, but I cannot fully trust the technology," he said.

Nonetheless, he expressed high hopes about electric vehicles. He said that in the near future, with even better technology, electric vehicles would definitely be a better option for commuters.

CHARGING POINT

Scooter-maker aims high: 1 million vehicles a year

Ather Energy, India's top electric scooter maker by revenue, is raising funds to ramp up annual production to one million scooters over the next three years amid a surge in demand, the startup's co-founder and chief executive told Reuters.

Ather, which counts Tiger Global and Indian bikemaker Hero MotoCorp as investors, has raised about 12 billion rupees ($160 million) since its inception in 2013 and is in the process of raising more, Tarun Mehta said in an interview.

"Our plan was to not raise more capital and focus on growing the brand, but the rate of transition to electric and the pace at which the supply chain and capacities need to ramp is way faster than what we thought a year back," Mehta said.

Sales of electric scooters surged more than five-fold in India last year, as high fuel prices push buyers to look for alternatives and government subsidies narrow the price gap between electric and gasoline models. Ather is also building its war chest amid rising competition from startups like Softbank Group-backed Ola Electric, which recently raised $200 million.

Reuters

Budget should focus on green products like EVs, say experts

UNION BUDGET 2022

With the government committing to become carbon neutral by 2070, it is imperative that the forthcoming Budget should focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues by providing tax and non-tax incentives needed to promote green economy, say experts.

Indian businesses are undergoing significant changes amidst externalities such as climate change, finite resource availability, technology disruptions, emerging linked ecosystems and evolving stakeholder expectations.

Rishi Raj, COO, Max Estates Ltd, said as a progressive real estate player, his company wants to make a positive contribution to the environment.

"Government interventions and policy changes like tax rebates for meeting set environmental standards and certifications, green taxes on harmful environmental activities, and subsidies on use of green products and services like electric vehicles, solar panels and carbon neutral materials can go a long way in furthering the agenda of sustainability, which has steadfastly become the need of the hour," he said.

Jaya Vaidhyanathan, CEO, BCT Digital said that it is crucial that Union Budget 2022-23 pays due consideration to ESG and the implementation of requisite practices, to enable sustainable growth of the country.

Pointing out that the government's commitment to become net-zero by 2070 is evident through multiple initiatives like the push towards electric vehicle adoption, Vaidhyanathan said this focus should only become prominent in the budget and in the times to come through steps like incentivising adoption of green technology.

"The rising emphasis of Indian enterprises on ESG and the government's support in the same regard is encouraging, as it will certainly contribute in enhancing holistic brand value to multiple stakeholders and maintaining premium equity valuation," Vaidhyanathan added.

According to PwC India, the budget should incorporate ESG parameters when structuring incentives, allocating resources and in the procurement processes, across sectors and institutions.

"Additional budgetary allocation, viability based funding and institutional capacity building for cleantech, including carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUs), afforestation and nature based solutions are critical for creating an enabling ecosystem for ESG adoption," said PwC India.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to present the Union Budget for the next fiscal in Parliament on Tuesday. PTI

Broken roads 'n hopes...

Are reality of many villages that were waiting to be added to BBMP's limits for infrastructural development as it looks unlikely that they will be included

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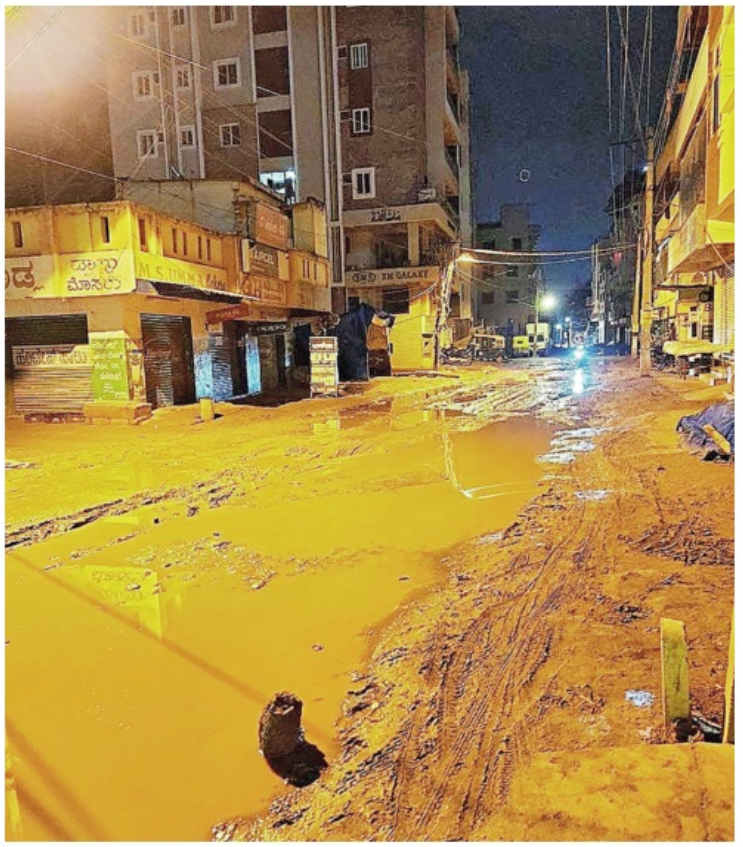
K Sathya Murthy, a techie in Electronic City, had constructed a house in a locality nearby to cut down on commute. The locality is under the jurisdictional authority of a gram panchayat. Although he had constructed a big house, the area lacked proper roads and drainage. For decades, his only hope was that when Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) was expanding, all neighbouring gram panchayats in 110 villages would be merged with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) too, so that basic infrastructure like roads, drains, sewerage netwand garbage collection get sorted out. However, hopes of lakhs of people, like Murthy, have been dashed as the state government has decided against including the neighbouring areas to Bengaluru.

Earlier, the government planned to expand BBMP to include villages around one km from the BBMP's limits and increase the number of wards under the Palike. But BBMP wards will be re-structured without extending their limits now.

Yeswanthpur, Dasarahalli, Yelahanka, and some villages in Mahadevapura are developing beyond their village statuses. Gram panchayats can't provide the infrastructure facilities to such places with their limited resources. The residents of some villages wanted their properties to be included in BBMP's limits which would help them in developing infrastructure too. So the legislators had also demanded the government to include the villages in BBMP's limits.

On August 14, 2020, the department of urban development instructed to increase the number of wards from 198 to 243 by including villages around one kilometre of BBMP limits. The committee was formed and headed by the civic body's chief commissioner. The BBMP Act 2020 also passed in the legislature. Again, a committee was formed on January 29 in 2021. The period of the committee ended on July 28, 2021. The term of the committee was extended to January 28, 2022. No draft or report has been submitted yet. The committee wants to request the government to extend their deadline again. The committee has not considered any requests to add villages to BBMP as all gram panchayats conducted elections recently and their five-year term has not yet been completed. Once these gram panchayats are included in BBMP, there will be legal issues.



Many roads in these villages are in a bad state but gram panchayats do not have the resources to develop the infrastructure without Palike's help

> **"There is no official order by the government to add new places to BBMP. So, we are not recommending including villages beyond one km of BBMP limits**
>
> – J Manjunath, Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru

The committee feels that more time is needed to identify the borders. So, it decided to recommend not adding any of these villages to BBMP's jurisdiction yet.

Below 35k per ward

The average population per ward is 42,645. BBMP was recommended to restructure 198 wards. If wards are increased without extending the Palike's limits, the average population per ward would amount to under 35,000. The committee prepared an interim report on this. The process of restructuring the wards may take one or two months. This includes publishing the notification of the draft and inviting objections. After receiving the objections, the final notification and the reservation list must be published.

Conducting elections after completing all these procedures requires at least three months. A case regarding elections is also pending in the Supreme Court.

Rule of officials

The term of the BBMP-elected council members ended on September 10, 2020. The government-appointed the administrative officers in the BBMP. Before completing the term of the elected council, the election process must be started.

Citizens are facing many issues due to the pandemic. BBMP Chief Commissioner appointed nodal officers to each ward and conducted meetings every month.

But there are no meetings in many wards and residents cannot express their grievances. Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru J Manjunath said, "The draft report of increasing 193 BBMP wards to 243 is ready to be submitted to the government. We will take further action as per the notification issued by the government. There is no official order by the government to add new places to BBMP. So, we are not recommending including villages beyond one km of BBMP limits."

Traffic cop suspended for assaulting woman

The city police commissioner suspended the ASI from Halasuru Gate traffic police station after he was spotted in a viral video assaulting a differently abled woman. The woman, Manjula, 37, was allegedly pelting stones at the towing truck on JC Road when one of the stones hit ASI Narayana, who was sitting inside the vehicle. State Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said that everyone must follow the law and police officials are no exception.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai is expected to conduct a meeting with the city police commissioner, DGP and other officials in this regard. Similar to this incident, a video, showing a towing truck staff harassing a delivery executive, has gone viral on social media. The staff attached to the JB Nagar Traffic Police Station had towed the executive's bike and the executive was seen running behind the vehicle. The incident occurred a few days ago and passersby had recorded the incident.

— BMB

Bangalore Mirror

Viral: Traffic cop assaults woman

Traffic policeman grabs differently abled woman by her hair, abuses her on JC Road; shocking video goes viral

BM Story on January 30, 2022

UGNEET 2021 counselling begins

The schedule for the first round of counselLing for those who wrote UGNEET 2021 for medical or dental or Ayush courses commenced on January 29 and will end on February 7, the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) stated in a press release. As per the executive director of KEA, the process began with the display of the seat matrix and fee structure, and the downloading of verification slips on January 29. As per the schedule of the calendar of events, option entry by eligible candidates (in the order of preference), publication of mock allotment results, provision to change option entry for eligible candidates (add/alter/rearrange/deletion of options) will be carried out on February 1.

Publication of first-round allotment result, exercising of choices by candidates who have secured seats, payment of fees and downloading of admission order (payment of fees by choice-1 and choice-2 candidates) and downloading of admission orders by choice-1, after payment and deposition of original documents will be done on February 4. Deposition of original documents (at KEA, Bengaluru in person) along with one set of attested photocopies of all documents, only for Choice-1 candidates who have paid their fees, will be held on February 5.

The last date for reporting at the allotted medical/dental college (Choice-1 candidates only) with a set of attested photocopies as per the verification slip is February 7.

— BMB

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Road blocks

Chalukya Junction

A right turn at Chalukya Junction is blocked. This is creating traffic snarls. And now this has turned out to be a parking lot for traffic police. It is also opened for parents who come to drop kids to a school, putting motorists in trouble.

Work not in progress

Marathahalli

At this spot near a petrol bunk in Marathahalli some work has been in progress for the past two and a half years. So because of the slow moving work, people are forced to walk on the main road, risking their life and limb.

Encroaching space?

Electronics City

Metro officials are conducting some work here by blocking the road at 4 pm on Veerasandra Road at Electronics City. Needless to say, this is excluding the public and the citizens from free use of what is rightfully theirs to use.

HEALTH TIP: Sitting in one spot for hours at a stretch can cause high blood pressure and increase the risk of death from cardiovascular disease or cancer

Greek yoghurt has the perfect ratio of protein and carbohydrate and makes the best post-workout snack

BangaloreMirror | 9
Monday, January 31, 2022
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BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 I am 23 years old. I want to know if excessive masturbation can lead to memory loss. Will I forget what I have studied after masturbation?
Since your testicles are not situated in the brains and have a separate function of their own, you could be assured of not suffering from a memory loss. There is no connection between masturbation and memory loss.

2 I feel the urge to have sex every time I meet my boyfriend. However, he's not as excited as I am. His indifference upsets me. Do I appear a little desperate?
Possibly he does not realise what you are trying to convey. During a suitable time, when you meet, you could raise the issue of indifference that you are feeling, with him, and suggest how both of you could improve your time together. If he does not respond, you may want to re-consider your reactions.

3 I am 30 years old and my wife is 28 years old and she suffers from leucorrhoea (a whitish or yellowish discharge of mucus from the vagina). Due to her condition, I don't feel like having sex with her and this has led to much marital strife. What should I do?
Do not let a minor issue create a major rift between the two of you. You need to be understanding of your wife's condition. Since leucorrhoea is an infection and can be easily treated she, along with you, should visit the gynaecologist.

4 I am 26 years old and my wife recently had a C-section. How long should we wait before having sex again?
The gynaecologist should have told you to wait till the stitches have been removed or healed. This usually takes place within six weeks.

MEET THE SEXPERTS
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Mane dos and don'ts

Everyone's hair is different. Figure out what works best for yours

Samara Setia
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Washing your hair is one of the most fundamental methods of caring for it. Washing your hair is a daily ritual. It does more than just clean our hair; it relieves tension and improves our attitude. However, it's essential to learn how to manage your hair in the shower while it's wet and fragile. But are you shampooing your hair correctly? Since everyone's natural hair is different, you must figure out what works best for you, your lifestyle, and your hair. We've got the lowdown on how to manage washday like a pro to help you establish your perfect regimen.

Here are some hair care ideas, as well as dos and don'ts, to help you make your hair care regimen even more effective.

Detangling
Do: Before you wash, detangle your hair. Detangling your hair is necessary, but it can be time-consuming if your hair is thicker, longer, or your curls are tighter. The easiest approach is to detangle with your fingers first, then with a broad tooth comb.
Don't: Yank your hair during detangling. It's something we've unhappily learned from sitting in between our mothers' laps as she brushed our hair. Starting at the root and pulling out hair as she combed all the way through. Not only does this give an unneeded headache, but it also uproots hair that wasn't ready to go. This might even harm the follicles, causing the hair to fall out and never grow back.

While washing
Do: Before shampooing, make sure you completely rinse your hair with water. Shampoo lathers and distributes more evenly on damp hair. If you wet your hair thoroughly before washing it, you'll find that you need less shampoo to wash it. Rinse your hair with lukewarm water. Warm water will assist open the hair cuticles, allowing the shampoo to enter deeper and eliminate debris and oil from the hair. The open cuticles will also be better able to absorb the conditioner's oil and hydrating properties.
Don't: Shampoo only the hair. The roots are usually the oiliest part of the hair and thus the scalp requires the greatest care during shampooing. Since the ends of the hair are older and drier, they get even more dehydrated after being treated with shampoo. So, rather than washing your ends, concentrate on cleaning the scalp.
Do: Condition deeply. You must have realized that deep conditioning on wash day results in maximum moisture. Because the ends of the hair are the driest and require the most moisture, apply extra conditioner to the ends and let it on for a longer period of time. Continue with your shower while the conditioner does its magic. Remember to wash the conditioner off with cold water to help close the cuticles and to ensure your hair doesn't become frizzy.
Don't: Rush your hair wash day. Most of you are probably busy and have a large to-do list. But it's called wash day for nothing. It's important to detangle, wash, deep condition, and style your hair with care. Even if our natural hair is thick, we still have a lot of work to do. So, take your time and maintain your hair with love and care.

Drying
Don't: Pull-on damp hair. When your hair is wet, you may notice it is a little more brittle, so be extra careful not to tug or pull the wet hair, or you'll lose a few strands.
Do: Allow your hair to air dry. This is usually a better alternative to using a blow dryer, and it's one of the reasons why wash day takes so long. Another useful suggestion is to dry your hair with an old t-shirt rather than as a towel to reduce frizz.
Don't: Use too much heat. If you must use heat (particularly on wash day when the hair is damp), apply a heat protectant product and avoid overheating the hair; as it will harm the hair in the long term.

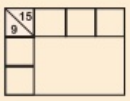
Long-term hair goals
Do: Protect with protein. Some people may be unfamiliar with this phrase, but including it in your wash-day regimen can be beneficial. Because hair is made up of protein, using a protein treatment on wash days helps to strengthen the hair. There is a list of DIY protein treatments available online, as well as protein treatments available at your local medicine shop. Most protein treatments include eggs and oil to provide moisture.
Don't: Use an excessive amount of commercial goods. It's tough to advise don't use them at all because these products do assist stimulate natural hair development, but there are several compounds in shampoos and conditioners you should avoid, such as sulfate, isopropyl alcohol, PEG, and glycol, to name a few.

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$2^{40}+2^{40}+2^{40}+2^{40}$ = ?
(a) 2^{160} (b) 8^{40} (c) 2^{42}

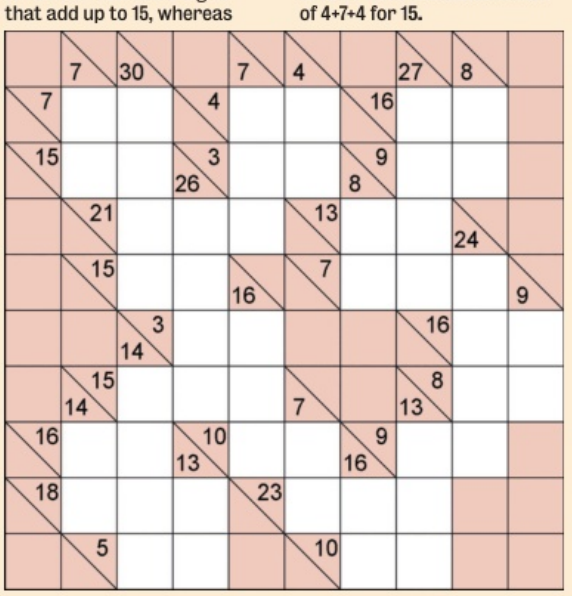
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

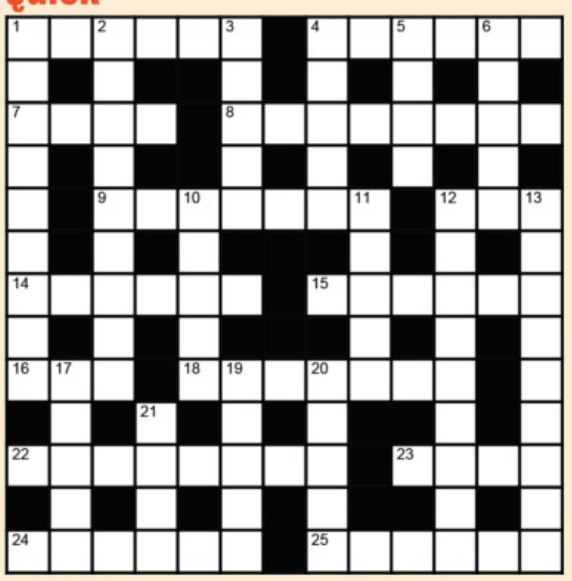


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Officers in training ? (6)
4 Four scores and ten ? (6)
7 Close (4)
8 Causing obstruction (2,3,3)
9 Sycophants (7)
12 A high mountain (3)
14 The State Archaeological ____ is located in Cubbon Park (6)
15 Very drunk (6)
16 Press for payment (3)
18 Tense or edgy (7)
22 It ends an auction (5,3)
23 Hindu ascetic (4)
24 Numberless (6)
25 Lack of interest (6)

DOWN

1 Ratified (9)
2 Pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy or sloth ? (6,3)
3 Snip (5)
4 Crazy or slightly eccentric (5)
5 Poverty (4)
6 Lag behind (5)
10 A container for making butter (5)
11 Artillery volley (5)
12 Entertain visitors ? (3,2,4)
13 Irreverence (9)
17 Oneness (5)
19 Set in (5)
20 Russian alcoholic drink (5)
21 Indian queen (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: U EQUALS G

QYJHJ'D S LVSKJ NZ QYJ THSNZ CRH BZRONZU OYSQ KSZZRQ TJ HJEJETJHJM.

Linemaro

Make a sound
(What was that?)
It was the sound of my heart breaking

Mindchow

Ability will never catch up with the demand for it

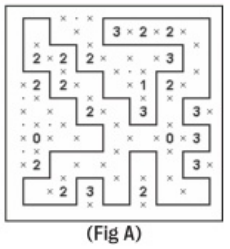
Joke of the day

After all is said and done, usually more is said than done

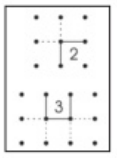
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

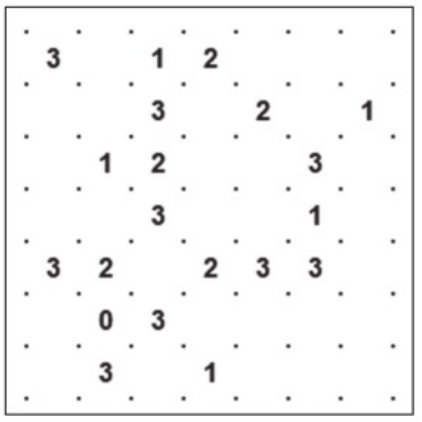


(Fig B) Not Allowed

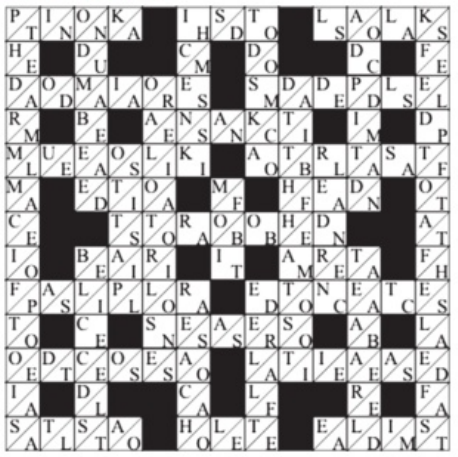
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



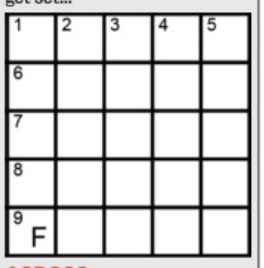
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

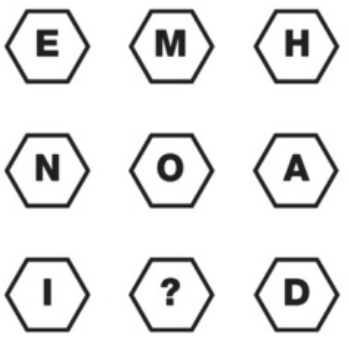
1 Two OK; 6 I a cab;
7 To let; 8 All II;
9 Id Elf

DOWN

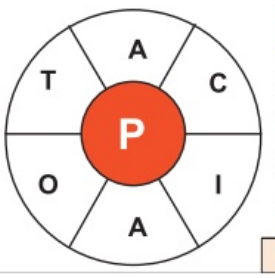
1 I flak; 2 I Lobo;
3 Eat it; 4 Lacto;
5 Wilde

Mensapuzzle

Which letter is missing from the lower middle hexagon?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	6		2		3		9	
				8				
	4		5		1		7	
9	3			4			6	7
		6				1		
5	8			1			3	2
	9		3		4		1	
				6				
	2		7		9		8	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 12
3 5 5 5

Medium = 7
2 4 8 9

Hard = 37
3 5 8 3

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

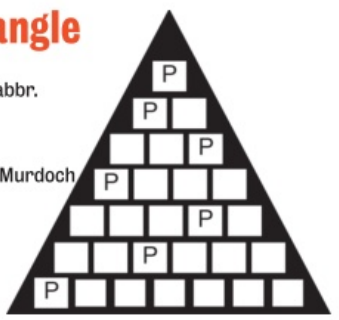
Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Hair is different. 3. Curtain is wider. 4. Football helmet strap is moved. 5. Button is missing. 6. Foot is moved.

Riddler

Each of the clues below describe the name of a candy. Can you name them? Example: Galaxy would be a Milky Way. 1. Sign of affection 2. Favourite day for working people 3. Can't hold on to anything 4. Famous swashbuckling trio 5. Sun explosions

Alpha triangle

1 Parking sign
2 Potential energy, abbr.
3 Ribbed fabric
4 Chaste
5 Burst forth
6 Publishing tycoon Murdoch
7 Cause anxiety to



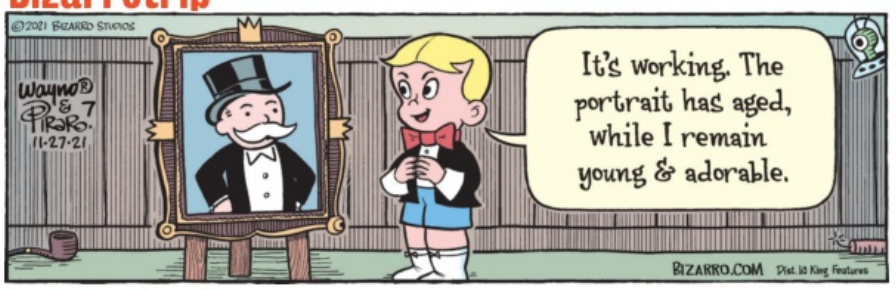
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

FOR SECRET SANTA, WE SHOULD PUT OUR NAMES IN A HAT.
AND WE SHOULD ALL WRITE WITH THE SAME COLOR SO WE DON'T GET SPOILED ON WHO GOT WHO.
OR... WE COULD USE THE SECRET SANTA APP.
WELCOME TO 2021, DEAN.

Crankshaft

I WONDER IF HANNAH HAS THE OVEN AT THE RIGHT TEMPERATURE?
I HOPE SHE REMEMBERS TO ALSO PUT THE EXTRA STUFFING IN THE OVEN!
SO MUCH FOR HANNAH SAVING YOU FROM GETTING UP EARLY TO FIX THE TURKEY.

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be busy at work. Luck may help you implement some new ideas in the work. You may follow rules and be ethical in your dealing with people around you, which may give you inner peace and inner strength.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, things are under control. You may be able to come out yesterdays' messy situation. You may work with great patience, which may reflect into your way of working. Love birds may plan for an outing. Students may have good focus towards their goals. Singles may find their love in the same community.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may feel dull and unhappy. You may be a victim of mood swings, which may reflect into your domestic life harmony. You are advised to avoid arrogance at work, otherwise you may create hidden enemies around you. You are advised to avoid rash driving and adventure tours.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be happy. You may spread happiness around you and feel harmonious in the domestic life. You may enjoy some romantic moments with your spouse. Your family may support you in making some important decisions on the professional front. You may expect some new ventures or partnerships in business or work.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, the positive moon may make you happy. You may use your patience at every stage. Your performance may be good at job. You may get some incentives. Health-related issues of family members will be resolved now. Job seekers are likely to get suitable jobs in their domain. Love birds may enjoy their relationship.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may have mixed situations around you. It is advised to not expect more from anyone, it may make you disappointed. Today, you may be able to self-explore and analyse, which may allow you to filter yourself. After the filtration process, you may feel confidence and be able to prepare to accept challenges.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, dissatisfaction may make you upset. You may not be able to enjoy every single moment. You may have a lack of patience, which may affect your way of working. Silly mistakes may occur in your task. You are advised to practise meditation or yoga. You may also visit some religious places to seek peace.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel energetic. Your speed of working may be noticeable. You may perform difficult tasks in an easy way. Disputes between siblings may settle now, which may lead to happiness in the family. Your focus towards your goals may be noticeable, which will give you success in your work front.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may expect to get some inherited assets. You may perform with patience at work, which may increase your efficiency. You may be polite with people around you. You may put less efforts in daily work. You may use your communication skills to get new work.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you patient. Externally, you may face some work-related stress, but your inner sense may be calm and cool, which may help you to balance everything. You may enjoy your every moment in work and domestic life. Some new sources of income may open, which may help you to boost your financial health.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may feel dull today. You may face health issues. You are likely to be a victim of insomnia, which might make you arrogant. Your arrogance may affect your domestic harmony. Your profits may convert into losses. You are advised to think twice before doing any type of financial transaction.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel energetic. Your losses may convert into profit, which may increase your business growth. You may make some difficult decisions in the business with the help of your subordinates. You might perform at work efficiently; your boss may support you. You may also expect to get incentives, which may increase your savings.

KIDZONE

Samridhi Parasrampuria, 6 Years, Green Wood High School

Mohamed Uzair, 4 Years, St Mary's Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=4(2*40) = (2*2)(2*40)
=2*42

RIDDLER
1. Kisses, 2. Payday,
3. Butterfingers,
4. 3 Musketeers,
5. Starbursts

QUOTE UNCODE
There's a place in the brain for knowing what cannot be remembered.

FAST FIVE

K	O	T	O	W
A	B	A	C	I
L	O	T	T	E
I	L	I	A	L
F	I	E	L	D

BULL'S EYE
atop, optic,
pact, patio,
pica, TAPIOCA,
topic

STRIKE OUT

A	L	S	O	■	H	E	T	■	A	D	I	T	■	■
I	■	D	■	C	■	F	■	R	■	F	■	■	■	■
E	D	E	S	A	■	A	T	E	A	S	E	■	■	■
O	■	E	■	R	S	■	B	■	L	■	■	■	■	■
P	A	L	L	O	R	■	D	O	N	A	T	E	■	■
O	■	B	A	I	■	I	■	M	E	T	■	H	■	■
C	■	S	T	A	B	E	D	■	O	T	T	O	■	■
A	D	I	A	■	F	■	H	A	N	■	O	■	■	■
M	U	S	E	S	■	I	■	A	T	L	A	S	T	■
R	■	B	■	E	N	A	C	T	■	M	■	P	■	■
A	D	M	I	R	E	■	S	A	D	D	L	E	■	■
H	■	U	■	C	■	O	■	S	■	E	■	■	■	■
P	I	N	K	■	I	S	T	■	S	O	A	■	■	■

QUICK

C	A	D	E	T	S	■	N	I	N	E	T	Y	■	■
O	■	E	■	N	■	U	■	E	■	R	■	■	■	■
N	E	A	R	■	I	N	T	H	E	W	A	Y	■	■
F	■	D	■	C	■	T	■	D	■	I	■	■	■	■
I	■	L	A	C	K	E	Y	S	■	A	L	P	■	■
R	■	Y	■	H	■	A	■	C	■	R	■	■	■	■
M	U	S	E	U	M	■	B	L	O	T	T	O	■	■
E	■	I	■	R	■	Y	■	A	■	F	■	■	■	■
D	U	N	■	N	E	R	V	O	U	S	■	A	■	■
N	■	R	■	M	O	■	H	■	■	N	■	■	■	■
F	I	N	A	L	B	I	D	■	Y	O	G	I	■	■
T	■	N	■	E	■	K	■	S	■	T	■	■	■	■
M	Y	R	I	A	D	■	A	P	A	T	H	Y	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
M. Working in rows, add together the numerical values of the left and right hand letters to give the numerical value of the central letter.

SUDOKU

8	6	5	2	7	3	4	9	1
7	1	9	4	8	6	2	5	3
3	4	2	5	9	1	8	7	6
9	3	1	8	4	2	5	6	7
5	8	4	6	1	7	9	3	2
2	7	6	9	3	5	1	4	8
6	9	8	3	2	4	7	1	5
4	5	7	1	6	8	3	2	9
1	2	3	7	5	9	6	8	4

ALPHA TRIANGLE
P, PE, Rep,
Pure, Erupt,
Rupert,
Perturb.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 + 5 + 5 – 3 = 12
Medium
4 x 2 + 8 – 9 = 7
Hard
3 x 5 x 3 – 8 = 37

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Kajol tests positive for covid

Actor Kajol on Sunday said she has tested positive for covid. She shared a picture of her daughter Nysa, writing that she was too embarrassed to show anyone her red nose, due to cold.

Becoming in black

Known for dishing out major fashion goals Deepika Padukone has been recently scorching up Instagram with alluring pictures from her latest photoshoots and the actor has been making some stunning statements in black.

In the latest picture, Deepika looks gorgeous in a black blazer which she teamed with a pair of black stilettos. With her hair tied in a neat bun, she completed her look with kohl-rimmed eyes and dark lip colour, finding the balance between elegance and charm.

Earlier, the actor had shared a series of pictures with her fans. She was seen wearing a one-shoulder black leather bodycon mini dress. She chose to round off her outfit with blingy golden earrings, tie-up heels and a wet hairdo. For her eyes, she opted for a smokey effect which gelled aptly with her overall look.

As of now Deepika is busy with her latest 'Gehraiyaan', in which she is sharing screen space with Ananya Panday, Siddhant Chaturvedi and Dhairya Karwa. Speaking about her character, Deepika had earlier shared, "Alisha, my character in Gehraiyaan, is close to my heart and one of the most challenging characters I have portrayed. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to play a role that was fun and challenging at the same time."

Farhan, Shibani wedding plans

Bollywood star-couple Farhan Akhtar and Shibani Dandekar may just be ditching their low-key wedding for a grand Bollywood-style nuptials.

Weeks after reports claimed that the two will wed in a quiet registered marriage, it now seems like they will have their big fat dream wedding after all. While reports stated that the couple will wed in a hush-hush court marriage next month, new reports claim that they have now decided to host a grand wedding in April.

Farhan and Shibani wanted to tone down the festivities due to the pandemic restrictions and Omicron threat, but now that things are under control, they plan to go all out, states a report on Bollywoodlife.

Farhan has been dating Shibani for almost 4 years. The two have been living together and even adopted pets together.

On the work front, Farhan is prepping for his next directorial venture, 'Jee Le Zara', which have Katrina Kaif, Priyanka Chopra, and Alia Bhatt in lead roles. The movie is slated to go on floors in the second half of 2022, and is eyeing a 2023 release.

— ETimes

Fashion watch

Red, black or blue? 10 times actor Malavika Mohanan doled out fashion goals

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

Sunny, perfect Sunday

Sunny Leone loves to travel across the world, especially beach destinations and a cursory look at her social media will instantly prove it. She is in vacation mood right now and has been sharing glimpses from her beach vacation almost regularly and as usual, her beachwear pictures didn't disappoint fans. On Sunday, the actress shared yet another breathtakingly beautiful photo from her perfect weekend.

Her picture-perfect beach look is filling us with holiday vibes. In the photo, Sunny is dressed in a pink fringe-laden swimsuit with a blueprinted over the front, while relaxing beside a swimming pool and all set to soak in sunshine. The palm trees and blue clear skies in the background make the photo even more exciting. She captioned it saying, "The perfect Sunday!" and instantly grabbed the Internet's attention.

The actor was having blast in the Maldives recently. She shared back-to-back pictures and videos from her holiday— of underwater swimming session, or posing with sharks, or relaxing on the beach.

Single or not, Salman?

Bollywood's most eligible bachelor, Salman Khan may just be off the market!

The Bollywood superstar, who has long been linked to Iulia Vantur, dropped a major hint that he is not currently single while goofing around with Shehnaaz Gill on the sets of Bigg Boss.

Shehnaaz praised the 52-year-old for his suave look saying, "Sir, aap single hi acche lagte ho. (You look good as a single only)."

While replying, Salman let it slip, "Jab ho jaunga, tab aur accha lagunga. (When I become single, I'll look even better)." To this, Shehnaaz teased, "Achaa, committed ho? (Oh, so you are committed?)"

This is the first time that the actor has dropped hints about his love life. However, it is still unclear if this little admission was just a part of the show or if he is ready to settle down.

While on the show, Salman also shared his happiness about Katrina Kaif's wedding to Vicky Kaushal. "Yes, she's married to Vicky Kaushal. Sab kushal mangal, sab accha hai. Sab khush hai (Everyone's happy)," he said on the show.

Did actor who has been linked to Iulia drop a hint on relationship status?

It was rumoured that the actor would be among the select few guests at Kat's wedding, however, ETimes broke the news that the Khan family was not invited owing to Covid-19 protocols. Salman and Katrina will soon be seen sharing the screen in the upcoming action film 'Tiger 3'.

— ETimes